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### **Senate sends child-protection bills to governor**

**LANSING** – Legislation addressing the rising rate of child abuse by making it more difficult for those with criminal sexual abuse histories to elude the notice of authorities has been sent to the governor, Sen. Bruce Patterson announced today.

Senate Bill 607 and House Bill 4934 will place new restrictions on those convicted of sex-related crimes. Offenders will be required to report changes of address more promptly to police and penalties will be established for failing to comply with the new laws.

“Knowing where potential repeat offenders live will be a great help to law enforcement,” said Patterson. “This also will help parents of victims keep closer tabs on where the offender is living by tracking their residence online. Forewarned is forearmed.”

SB 607 is sponsored by Patterson, R-Canton. It is tie-barred with HB 4934, sponsored by Rep. Richard Ball, R-Shiawassee County. They are part of the Student Safety Initiative that limits convicted child abusers from working at schools or daycares and from living and working within 1,000 feet of a school.

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